COMMANDERS DIGEST

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SecDef Calls ADM Charges In Turkey 'Defensive' Measure

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said possible use of atomic demolition munitions on the border of Turkey for defense against potential enemy invasion "could not be considered provocative," because the nuclear charges are entirely defensive in character.

He explained that the atomic demolition charges are placed in the ground, under the ground, along the border —and "could be used only for defense and not for offensive purposes."

The secretary made these remarks Oct. 2 upon return from a conference of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group in Ankara, Turkey.

At various times since 1960, Secretary McNamara pointed out, the western nations have considered building a fleet of surface vessels on which could be mounted intercontinental ballistic missiles, but this failed to attract enough interest.

He restated that the Nuclear Planning Group was formed to insure the non-nuclear powers a voice in determining the number of nuclear weapons, the type of nuclear weapons, and plans for the use of those nuclear weapons in defense of the NATO nations.

Secretary McNamara noted the Russians are maintaining "very substantial forces in the southern part of Russia and surely they're not concerned about a potential Turkish invasion of Russia."

MTMTS, Air Transport Association Sign Unaccompanied Baggage Agreement

An agreement has been signed between the Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service and the Air Transport Association to ship a serviceman's unaccompanied baggage via air freight instead of surface carrier.

Officials said the agreement is designed to help eliminate delays, administration costs and losses enroute that have been encountered.

Baggage will be flown as air freight to domestic and overseas points. The agreement does not include baggage carried by the individual.

Stateside baggage will be flown to the airport nearest the serviceman's duty station. Baggage destined for overseas will be received by an airline at the nearest airport and flown to a connecting international airline for shipment.

NEW MINUTEMAN FLAG—Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force, Mr. John A. Lang Jr. (left) presents a new Minuteman Flag to Gen. G. P. Disosway, Tactical Air Command Commander, while Mr. Gideon A. Cox, U.S. Treasury Dept., Federal Payroll Savings executive (right), looks on. TAC headquarters received the flag, with star, during ceremonies at Langley AFB, Va., for maintaining 90 percent participation in the U.S. Savings Bond Program for the second consecutive year.

'Shillelagh' Guided Anti-Tank Missile Added to Army's Operational Arsenal

The Shillelagh, first U.S. guided missile to be fired from a gun, is now operational, the Army said this week.

The 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor, at Ft. Riley, Kan., is the first unit to receive the system, a fully guided anti-tank missile system.

It is mounted as standard armament on the Army's new M-551 General Sheridan armored reconnaissance airborne assault vehicle.

The system is being adapted for the Army's M-60A1E1 Battle Tank and will also be standard weaponry on the joint U.S.-Federal Republic of Germany Main Battle Tank.

Highly accurate against stationary or moving targets, the Shillelagh is guided along the gunner's line of sight to the target by an automatic command system mounted on the launching vehicle.

The system's 152mm gun-launcher can fire either missiles or conventional ammunition.

Washington Memos

"BIG T," an experimental Conex transporter with 16-ton capacity, is being tested in Vietnam by 1st Logistical Command for Army Materiel Command. It is capable of carrying three Conex supply containers at one time and loading or unloading them without need for forklifts. In future, innovation may provide faster, more efficient means for supplying combat soldiers.

CREW OF BATTLESHIP USS New Jersey will be trained in San Diego, Calif., prior to reporting to their ship, according to RAdm. David Lambert, Commander, Pacific Fleet Training Command. More than 1,200 officers and men ordered to recently activated battleship will begin reporting to San Diego's Fleet Training Center in January. Shakedown training of battleship will also be conducted by San Diego's Fleet Training Group in early summer of 1968.

ACTIVE DUTY RECALL applications for Air Force majors and below are being considered by Air Reserve Personnel Center at Denver, Colo. ARPC is looking for Pilot 10XX-14XX; Navigator Observer 15XX; Development Engineering 28XX; Logistics 66XX; Aircraft Control 16XX; Avionics 32XX; Photographic 23XX; Weapons Director 17XX; Civil Engineering 55XX. Total objective of FY 68 voluntary line officer recall program is 120, with some 74 officers recalled or selected thus far.

GUIDELINES FOR PURCHASE of Air Traffic Control equipment used by Air Force, Army and Navy were established during common provisioning conference by Navy under direction of DOD AIMS/System Program Office, an Air Force Aeronautical Systems Division organization. Results of conference showed that tri-service provisioning could significantly reduce number of provisioning documents, common support documents and common technical manuals.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE Medal for Distinguished Public Service has been awarded to Capt. Robert N. MacFarlane, USN (Ret.), who is retiring as president of the National Security Industrial Association. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Nitze presented award at Association annual dinner. MacFarlane's successor is VAdm. Joseph M. Lyle, USN (Ret.).

PLANS FOR PROCESSING of applications from high school seniors for Air Force ROTC Financial Assistance Grants are complete, according to Air University officials. Beginning this fall, Air University's Air Force ROTC will evaluate and select qualified students for grants to be awarded to college freshmen for first time in fall, 1968.

ARMY COL. FRED Kornet Jr. (brigadier general selectee) has been assigned to office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Department of Army, Washington, D.C. He was replaced as Commanding Officer, Watervliet (N.Y.) Arsenal, by Col. Arthur H. Sweeney Jr., who will take his new post Nov. 15. Col. Sweeney is currently Commanding Officer, Springfield (Mass.) Armory, and will be relieved by Lt. Col. Charles B. Zumzalt, present Armory Deputy for Operations.

AIRLIFT "BEEFBROTH" RESERVE units continued to reflect the "beefed up" manning trend with officer and airmen strength percentages 92.4 and 99.7 respectively on June 30. Air Force reported the comparative manning in 1966 was officers 87.3 percent and airmen 98.0. Air Force designated 11 Air Force Reserve Military Airlift Groups "Beefbroth" as recently as 1965.

NAVAL MOBILE Construction Battalion One has won Peltier Award, presented by Society of American Military Engineers, for being outstanding Seabee Battalion of 1966. Presently stationed at DaNang, RVN, battalion was cited for its professional engineering and military ability of its members. Previously, battalion had been named "Best of Type" in Atlantic Fleet.

ARMY COL. RODGER R. Bankson has been named Director, Directorate for Defense Information, Office of Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, replacing Brig. Gen. Winant Sidle, who was transferred to Vietnam as head of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, information staff. Col. Bankson was Chief, Office of Information, MACV, Vietnam, prior to his assignment to Pentagon. He had served as Special Assistant for Vietnam, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs before his tour of duty in Vietnam.

NAVY, THROUGH THE General Services Administration, has sold its facilities at the Todd Shipyard Corp., New Orleans to the Port Commission of that city, with the exception of two dry docks and two barges.

CINCPAC AND COMUSMACV have been cited for making a vigorous and successful effort to reduce piaster spending by U.S. Forces in Vietnam. DOD testimony released recently by Senate Armed Services Preparedness Subcommittee did not contain figures. DOD noted, however, that "piaster expenditure limitation is not considered to have been a substantial factor in the decision, made in July 1967, on the additive forces for South Vietnam for FY68."

AIR FORCE COL. Norman J. Keefer has been named Director of Agena Program Office at Headquarters, Air Force Space and Missile Systems Organization, El Segundo, Calif. A veteran of 13 years in Air Force space program, Col. Keefer will be responsible for development and procurement of Agena upper stage Air Force space vehicle.

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THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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Naval Ordnance Systems Command Establishes School At Indiana U.

A Naval Ordnance Systems Command School has been established at Indiana University under the university's Center for Safety and Traffic Education.

Administered by the Ammunition Depot, Crane, Ind., the school consists of a series of two-week courses in explosive safety, industrial safety, activities safety management, applied health and hygiene, motor vehicle safety, rocket and missile safety, and possibly nuclear weapons safety.

The first class, which began Sept. 18, is studying explosive safety. Thirty-three safety supervisors and scientific personnel from ordnance installations throughout the United States, Hawaii and Japan are enrolled in the class.

Purpose of the school, according to Capt. Thomas J. Christman, Crane Ammunition Depot Commanding Officer, "is to provide training in the basic fundamentals, skills and techniques of accident prevention."

House Committee Approves Bill Allowing Enlisted Men Credit for Reserve Time

The House Armed Services Committee has recommended Congressional approval for legislation that would allow enlisted military personnel to count reserve time in computing retirement pay.

Reported to the House floor in late September, the Department of Defense-supported bill would give enlisted personnel parity with officers in counting inactive reserve service after July 1, 1958, on a point-credit basis.

Current law prevents a majority of enlisted men who retire with less than 30 years service from receiving credit for anything other than active duty time.

Also recommended for passage by the House committee was a bill calling for the establishment of a Navy Judge Advocate General Corps. The legislation is designed to give Navy military lawyers professional identity and is supported by DOD. The Navy has had professional legal officers since 1946 but not a JAG Corps.

Sydney, Australia, New R&R Site for Troops in Vietnam

U.S. servicemen in Vietnam may now select Sydney, Australia, as one of 10 sites for rest and recuperation (R&R), according to Department of Defense officials.

Such trips to Sydney went into effect in early October.

Plans are under consideration to make Brisbane a second R&R center in Australia, with January 1968 as the target date.

Other R&R sites now being used include Hawaii, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Bangkok, Singapore, Manila, Taipei, Quala Lumpur and Benang, Malaya.

AIRPORT MEETING—Adm. Roy L. Johnson (left) Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet, meets with Gen. William C. Westmoreland (second from right), Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Air Base. Adm. Johnson was departing Vietnam following a tour of U.S. naval and military facilities. With Adm. Johnson and Gen. Westmoreland are RAdm. Kenneth L. Veth, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, and Vietnamese Gen. Honan Xuan Lam (right), Acting Commanding General, South Vietnam's I Corps.

Air Force Revises Regulations On Regular Officer Appointments

Air Force officers accepting Regular appointment beginning in Fiscal Year 1968 must agree to an additional one-year active duty commitment not concurrent with the service obligation of four years.

This is one of several changes instituted by Air Force headquarters to emphasize that acceptance of a Regular appointment reflects a definite career intent. Officials noted that this is in keeping with Air Force policy that Regular spaces be filled by those officers who are highly motivated toward an Air Force career.

Another change is the eligibility for consideration for Regular status being based on the calendar year of Total Active Federal Commissioned Service Date (TAFCSD), rather than on the fiscal year concept as previously used.

It was noted that the change to calendar year was adopted to correlate Regular appointment eligibility with eligibility for promotion and professional military schools.

In order to phase into the new procedures, officials said it will be necessary to consider officers in an 18-month increment for the FY68 program.

The additional active duty commitment after appointment as a Regular Air Force officer will be included in a change to regulations (AFRs 36-12 and 36-51).

The FY68 two-year selection board will convene Nov. 13. Considered will be all Reserve line officers, except legal, on active duty with TAFCSD of July 1, 1964 through Dec. 31, 1965.

DOD, Post Office Name Christmas Mailing Dates

Early mailing dates for Christmas cards and gifts to Armed Forces personnel overseas have been announced by the Department of Defense and U.S. Post Office Department.

First class parcels weighing more than five pounds should be mailed from Oct. 16 to Nov. 11. Greeting cards and parcels weighing less than five pounds and not measuring more than 60 inches in length and width should be mailed between Oct. 21 and Dec. 1, if mailed first class.

First class mail addressed to personnel will receive air transportation on a space available basis between the continental U.S. and overseas areas including Vietnam.

Parcels and greeting cards sent by airmail should be mailed between Dec. 1 and Dec. 11, according to DOD and Post Office officials.

Gifts should be securely wrapped in cartons of wood, metal or double-faced corrugated fiber board. Fragile items should be surrounded by cushioning materials such as excelsior or shredded paper. Matches, lighter fluid, and similar flammable items are prohibited. Mailers are reminded that thousands of packages may fail to reach their destination because they were poorly wrapped or addressed incorrectly or illegibly. To insure delivery, both mailing and return addresses should be placed inside packages.

Adm. Hyland to Assume Pacific Fleet Command

Commander of the Seventh Fleet, VAdm. John J. Hyland, is scheduled to relieve Adm. Roy L. Johnson as Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet.

With the command change, President Johnson nominated Adm. Hyland for promotion to admiral, and nominated his Seventh Fleet replacement, RAdm. William F. Bringle, for vice admiral.

The President also nominated Adm. Johnson for promotion to admiral effective Dec. 1 when he retires.

GUEST LECTURER—Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson is escorted to the Marine Corps' Command and Staff College at MCS Quantico, Va., by Marine Maj. Gen. Paul J. Fontana, Acting Commandant, Marine Corps Schools. Gen. Johnson delivered an address, "Views of the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army," to the staff and students at the Command and Staff College.

Army Makes Reduction In HARP Research Project

Army has decided to terminate that part of the novel "HARP" research project which uses giant naval 16-inch battleship guns as a first stage booster to launch sensors in the upper atmosphere.

Lac[illegible] of funds was the reason for stopping the joint Canadian-American High Altitude Research Program after three years of cannon firing launches and more than 100 successful space probes.

Army stressed that a small HARP program will continue at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., where five and seven inch guns will be used to develop high acceleration launching techniques.

Army also emphasized the 16-inch gun program was highly succesaful in its three years of operation.

Hoopes Is Named New Undersecretary of AF

Townsend W. Hoopes was sworn in Oct. 1 as Undersecretary of the Air Force, succeeding Norman S. Paul who resigned after serving in the post for two years.

Mr. Hoopes, who received the oath of office from Secretary of the Air Force Harold Brown, had been Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. Previously, he had served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Near East, South Asia and Military Assistance Policy Review.

He entered government service in 1947 as assistant to the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, and joined the Office of the Secretary of Defense in September 1948 where he served as assistant to the Secretary of Defense until 1953.

Prior to leaving his Pentagon post, Mr. Paul was honored by the Defense Department and the Air Force for distinguished service. He received the Department of Defense Public Service Award and the Air Force's Exceptional Civilian Service Award.

Navy Developing VFAX, New Type Fighter Plane

Testimony in a Senate Appropriations subcommittee has brought out that the Navy is working on a VFAX (aircraft, fighter/attack, experimental) plane that will be of different design, with new engines, new avionics, new electronics and probably will be a swing-wing aircraft.

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has directed the Navy and Air Force to proceed with preliminary studies on the aircraft.

It was disclosed that the plane will have the most modern and sophisticated weapons, a low landing speed, good rate of climb and acceleration and be generally a high performance fighter.

The VFAX is not to be a substitute for the F-111B. It will be a supplementary aircraft.

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